



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, CALIFORNIA ARMY NATIONAL GUARD
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"IMPORTANT CHANGE NOTICE"

SAFETY/OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH BULLETIN NUMBER 3-02

CAAD

12 April 2002

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Clearing the M-16 Rifle and M-9 Pistol (*CHANGE*)

1. This bulletin supersedes all previous bulletins with the subject: Clearing the M-16 Rifle and M-9 Pistol.
2. Due to recent accidental discharges of weapons during turn-in the following procedures will be **strictly** adhered to. These are the only procedures that will be used by Security Force guards of the California National Guard at all locations where weapons/ammo are issued and/or exchanged. A copy of this letter will be placed above the clearing barrel.
3. **A Non-Commissioned Officer (NCO) or Officer of the Security Force Guards must be present to observe all clearing procedures of all weapons being used by their personnel.**

M-16 Rifle (STP 21-1)

- a. Point rifle muzzle into clearing barrel (if available) or safe direction
- b. Remove magazine from weapon.
- c. Place selector lever on "SAFE"
- d. Lock bolt to the rear
 - Pull charging handle to the rear
 - Press bottom of bolt catch
 - Return charging handle to forward position
- e. Visually inspect weapon and remove any ammunition from the receiver and chamber.
- f. Press upper portion of bolt catch, allowing bolt to go forward
- g. Pull trigger to release pressure on firing pin spring

CAAD

SUBJECT: Clearing the M-16 Rifle and M-9 Pistol (*CHANGE*)

M-9 Pistol (TM 9-1005-317-10)

- a. Place safety lever in "SAFE" (downward) position.
- b. Depress magazine release button, remove magazine from pistol.
- c. With pistol pointed in a safe direction, grasp slide and fully retract the slide to remove chambered cartridge.
- d. Lock the slide to rear using the slide stop and visually inspect chamber to ensure that it is empty.

3. Commanders and/or team leaders are to ensure all soldiers are aware of these procedures and that they are followed. Soldiers and supervisors who do not adhere to this policy are subject to disciplinary action.


Encls

1. STP 21-1
2. TM 9-1005-317-10


DISTRIBUTION:

A, M

for *Er. Robinson*
THOMAS W. ERES
Major General *COL*
Commanding



UNLOAD AN M16A1 OR M16A2 RIFLE



071-311-2028

CONDITIONS

Given a loaded M16A1 or M16A2 rifle from which you must remove the ammunition.

STANDARDS

Clear the rifle, removing all ammunition and securing the rifle in the SAFE mode.

TRAINING AND EVALUATION

Training Information Outline

1. Point the rifle muzzle in a safe direction.

2. Remove the magazine from the rifle.
3. Place the selector lever on SAFE.
4. Lock the bolt open.
 - a. Pull the charging handle rearward.
 - b. Press the bottom of the bolt catch.
 - c. Return the charging handle to the forward position.
5. Remove any ammunition from the receiver and chamber.
6. Press the upper portion of the bolt catch, allowing the bolt to go forward.
7. Pull the trigger to release the pressure on the firing pin spring.

Evaluation Preparation

Setup: At a test site, provide an M16A1 or M16A2 rifle loaded with dummy ammunition. (You can also evaluate the soldier using their individual M16A1 or M16A2 rifle if loaded. Do not require the soldier to pull the trigger after releasing the bolt.)

Brief Soldier: Tell the soldier to unload the rifle.

Evaluation Guide

Performance Measures

1. Point the rifle muzzle in a safe direction.
2. Remove the magazine from the rifle.
3. Place the selector lever on SAFE.
4. Lock the bolt open.
 - a. Pull the charging handle rearward.
 - b. Press the bottom of the bolt catch.
 - c. Return the charging handle to the forward position.

Results

P	F
P	F
P	F
P	F

5. Remove any ammunition from the receiver and chamber.
6. Press the upper portion of the bolt catch, allowing the bolt to go forward.
7. Pull the trigger to release the pressure on the firing pin spring.

Feedback

Score the soldier GO if all performance measures are passed. Score the soldier NO-GO if any performance measure is failed. If the soldier scores NO-GO, show the soldier what was done wrong and how to do it correctly. Identify specific things the soldier can do to improve his or her performance.

REFERENCES

TEC 939-071-0009-F TM 9-1005-249-10

CORRECT MALFUNCTIONS OF AN M16A1 OR M16A2 RIFLE

071-311-2029

CONDITIONS

Given a loaded M16A1 or M16A2 rifle that has a malfunction and has stopped firing.

STANDARDS

Eliminate the stoppage so that firing is resumed.

TRAINING AND EVALUATION

Training Information Outline

WARNING

IF YOUR RIFLE MALFUNCTIONS WITH A LIVE ROUND IN THE CHAMBER OF A HOT BARREL, QUICKLY REMOVE THE ROUND. IF YOU CAN NOT REMOVE THE ROUND WITHIN 10 SECONDS, REMOVE THE MAGAZINE AND WAIT 15 MINUTES WITH THE RIFLE POINTED IN A SAFE DIRECTION. KEEP YOUR FACE AWAY FROM THE EJECTION PORT WHILE CLEARING A HOT CHAMBER TO AVOID POSSIBLE INJURY FROM A COOKOFF.

1. Perform immediate action.

Note: If your rifle malfunctions, remember S-P-O-R-T-S. This key word will help you remember these actions in sequence: Slap, Pull, Observe, Release, Tap, Shoot.

- a. Slap upward on the magazine to make sure it is properly seated.
 - b. Pull the charging handle all the way back.
 - c. Observe the ejection of the case or cartridge. Look into the chamber and check for obstructions.
 - d. Release the charging handle to feed a new round in the chamber. Do not ride the charging handle.
 - e. Tap the forward assist.
 - f. Shoot. If the rifle still does not fire, inspect it to determine the cause of the stoppage or malfunction and take appropriate remedial action.
- #### 2. Perform remedial action.

Note: If your rifle still fails to fire after performing steps 1a through 1f, check again for a jammed cartridge case in the chamber.

a. If a cartridge case is in the chamber, tap it out with a cleaning rod.

Note: If your rifle still fails to fire, you may have a mechanical failure.

b. Correct a mechanical malfunction.

- (1) Clear the rifle.
- (2) Disassemble the rifle.
- (3) Inspect for dirty, corroded, missing, or broken parts.
- (4) Clean dirty or corroded parts.
- (5) Replace missing or broken parts.
- (6) Assemble the rifle.
- (7) Perform a function check.
- (8) Load the rifle.
- (9) Fire the rifle.

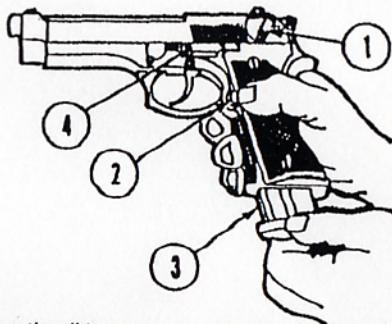
Evaluation Preparation

Setup: Provide an M16A1 or M16A2 rifle loaded with dummy ammunition.

Brief Soldier: Tell the soldier that the rifle has stopped firing. Tell the soldier that the weapon is cool and that he or she is to perform the immediate and remedial actions on the rifle. All steps must be performed in the proper sequence.

2-9. UNLOADING THE PISTOL. ✓

- a. Place decocking/safety lever (1) in "safe" (down) position.
- b. Depress the magazine release button (2) to remove the magazine (3) from the pistol.



- c. With the pistol pointing in e safe direction, grasp the slide narrations and fully retract the slide to remove the chambered cartridge.
- d. Lock the slide to the rear using the slide stop (4) and visually inspect chamber to ensure that it is empty.

TM 9-1005-317-10

2-10. UNLOADING THE MAGAZINE.

- a. With one hand, hold magazine upright with front end forward. With the thumb firmly press down on the cartridge rim and push forward. As the cartridge moves forward, tip it upward end out with the index finger.
- b. Repeat the above step until the magazine is empty.

Section IV. OPERATION UNDER UNUSUAL CONDITIONS.

WARNING

Always keep your finger away from the trigger unless you intend to fire. Make sure the pistol is not already loaded by inspecting the magazine and chamber.

For safety considerations, the hammer should always be lowered to the fully down position by depressing the decocking/safety lever.

CAUTION

If extensive corrosion is found and cleaning does not solve the problem, notify organizational maintenance/next authorized repair level.